at Page 12, line 9, delete "journal" and insert in its place --passage--;

at Page 12, line 16, delete "journal" and in its place insert --passage--;

at Page 13, line 2, delete "journal" and insert in its place --passage--;

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A thermal transfer roller, comprising:

an outer shell[, an inner shell, and an annulus] and an inner shell coaxially positioned within the outer shell to define a continuous annulus between an inner surface of the outer shell and an outer surface of the inner shell [between the outer and inner shells];

at least an inlet end chamber in fluid communication with the annulus;

a [roller journal] passage in communication with the annulus, the passage extending between an inlet end of the thermal transfer roller and an outlet end of the thermal transfer roller; and

a plurality of inlet channels in the inlet end chamber, each inlet channel having a first end closer to the [roller journal] passage and a second end closer to the annulus;

wherein each inlet channel becomes progressively wider along a plane which includes a circumference of the inlet end chamber between the first end and the second end thereof.

14. (Amended) A thermal transfer roller, comprising:

an outer shell[, an inner shell, and an annulus] and an inner shell coaxially positioned within the outer shell to define a continuous annulus between an inner surface of the outer shell and an outer surface of the inner shell [between the outer and inner shells];

an inlet end chamber positioned at an inlet end of the thermal transfer roller and in communication with the annulus;

[a roller journal in communication with the inlet end chamber;]

a plurality of inlet channels in the inlet end chamber, each having a wider end closer to the annulus and a narrower end further away from the annulus, wherein each inlet channel becomes progressively wider along a plane which includes a circumference of the inlet end chamber between the narrower end and the wider end thereof;

an outlet end chamber positioned at an outlet end of the thermal transfer roller and in communication with the annulus; [and]

a plurality of outlet channels in the outlet end chamber, each having a wider end closer to the annulus and a narrower end further away from the annulus, wherein each outlet channel becomes progressively wider along a plane which includes a circumference of the outlet end chamber between the narrower end and the wider end thereof; and

a passage in communication with the annulus, the passage extending between the inlet end of the thermal transfer roller and the outlet end of the thermal transfer roller.

20. (Twice Amended) A thermal transfer roller, comprising:

an inlet end chamber in communication with a source of fluid;

[an] a continuous annulus in communication with the inlet end chamber, the continuous annulus [formed between] defined by an inner surface of an outer cylindrical shell and an outer surface of an inner cylindrical shell; [and]

a plurality of inlet channels in the inlet end chamber, each inlet channel having a wider end closer to the annulus, and a narrower end, wherein adjacent inlet channels are separated by a wall having a substantially uniform thickness; and

a passage in communication with the annulus, the passage extending between an inlet end of the thermal transfer roller and an outlet end of the thermal transfer roller.

REMARKS

Applicants' undersigned attorney thanks the Examiner for his comments. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this patent application, particularly in view of the above Amendment and the following remarks.